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# NARRATIVES FROM THE WAR

IN CHARGE OF

ELISABETH ROBINSON SCOVIL

Miss Helen Page, a nurse from Forrest, Ontario, serving with the British Red Cross, has been taken prisoner by the Austrians near Belgrade. She was dispensing druggist at an allied hospital when the place was seized by Austrian troops and the entire staff made prisoners.

An English paper states that when the hospital ship *Anglia* was sunk in the English Channel the nurses refused to leave their patients, to seek safety in the life boats. "No, Tommy," said one, when a crippled soldier urged her to get into a boat, "it's fighting men first." Only one nurse is officially reported lost.

Lady Arthur Paget has appealed to America to aid her in securing an island where a colony for Serbian orphan children might be established. She says if the Serbian race is to be saved something must be done immediately to protect the thousands of orphaned babies and children.

Women have received high praise in the English parliament for their work in munition factories. They are making shells, fuses, and parts of shells, earning money at piece work rates, which was the envy of some of the men.

It is estimated that there are twenty miles of trenches to every mile of front, so that between Switzerland and the North Sea, the British and French armies have at least 10,000 miles of trenches to guard and keep in order.

In the Capuchin church at Innsbruck there are twenty-eight large bronze statues of the Emperor Maximilian and his hypothetical ancestors, including King Arthur of England, which is the finest German statue of the early sixteenth century, and of various Austrian arch-dukes. These are to be used for making guns.

The war has stimulated the generosity of all classes of the people. In Great Britain alone \$125,000,000 has been raised by the various patriotic funds. Seven million pennies were collected by the Red Cross, and one person gave \$125,000 for the same work. Canada collected in one province, Ontario, \$1,000,000 for the British Red Cross. Australia has given \$5 for each one of her population. The United States has given largely to all forms of relief work.

The Queen Mother Alexandria of England takes special interest in the work of the soldiers' canteens which furnish coffee and sandwiches free to all men in uniform, at the principal London railway stations. She has several times taken a turn at the coffee urn, serving for an hour and a half with the other voluntary workers. She is over seventy years old.

A correspondent at Salonika says the Turks fight like gentlemen. This is the testimony of every English officer and soldier who has been in the Dardanelles and at Gallipoli.

The Sidj Jeassu, the young emperor of Abyssinia, has offered two hundred thousand soldiers to the Entente Allies to be used as military necessities demand.

The German Order of the Iron Cross of which so much has been heard in this war, was instituted March 10, 1813, by Frederick William III for peculiar military or civil distinction in the war then in progress. It is of cast iron with silver mounting. The upper arm contains the initials F. W. with a crown, in the middle are three oak leaves, below which is 1813. It is worn at the buttonhole, suspended by a black ribbon with white borders when given as a military distinction, or a white ribbon with black borders when bestowed for civil merit. Those given during this war have the initial W, and the date 1914.

A Belgian lady, exiled in France, writing to a friend in Manchester, England, says:

I knew Miss Cavell very well. She was such an interesting person and beloved by all who knew her. She was clever and capable as a man with a woman's heart. I have been so often in her nursing home in the Rue de la Culture. She was adored by all her patients. I know many English girls who were tended there in illnesses, or operations, being without relatives in a foreign land. Every evening she would come and sit near their bedsides and talk to them in a motherly fashion. My own little girls used to visit the hospital to see two little friends who had been operated upon for appendicitis, and were very fond of her.

General Moskopoulos of Greece is a specialist in taking mountains. If Greece enters the war he will be most useful to the European commanders in showing them how to get over pathless peaks. He has not the appearance of a rugged mountaineer, being a dandified, agreeable, talkative little man with upturned, waxed, blonde moustache, gold wrist watch, and half a dozen heavy rings on his fingers.

There are 500,000 beds in the military and auxiliary hospitals in France. These are maintained at a cost of \$200,000 a day. It is estimated that more than a million wounded have been cared for thus far in France.